

[25 August. 2000]

RAJYA SABHA

Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers

3271. DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether a Central Scheme called Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among small farmers is under implementation in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) what facilities are being extended to small farmers under the scheme in the State?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI S.B.P.B.K. SATYANARAYANA RAO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A Centrally Sponsored Scheme, namely, Promotion of Agricultural Mechanisation among Small Farmers is under implementation since 1992-93 on All-India basis, including the State of Andhra Pradesh. Under the Scheme, subsidy at the rate of 30% of the cost, limited to Rs.30,000/-, is available to all categories of farmers, including small farmers, individually or in groups, registered co-operative societies, multi-purpose agricultural farming societies, agricultural credit societies for the purchase of tractors of upto 30 Power Take Off Horse Power (PTOHP) alongwith matching implements upto three in number. Under the scheme, funds amounting to Rs. 641.10 lakh have been released to the State of Andhra Pradesh since 1992-93 till 31.3.2000 and 1486 tractors have been subsidised.

Fodder for Milch Animals

3272. SHRI RAMACHANDRA KHUNTIA: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) the availability of dry and green fodder for milch animals in the country and in Orissa;

(b) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken by Government to narrow the demand-supply gap; and

(c) the daily calorie required for a milch animal and supply of the same in dry and drought prone areas of Orissa?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Availability of dry and green fodder in the country is 523.61 and 573.50 million tonnes respectively. Total (dry and green) available in Orissa is 19360 tonnes.

(b) The schemes being implemented for narrowing the demand and supply gap are:—

(i) Central Fodder Development Organization—under this seven Regional Stations for Forage Production and Demonstration and Central Fodder Seed Production Farm are operating in different agroclimatic zones to produce and supply quality seeds of high yielding varieties of fodder crops and grasses besides conducting farmers fair, training and demonstration on fodder production technology.

(ii) Under Central Minikit testing programme—minikits of fodder seeds are provided to farmers through the State Governments to generate awareness for the production of high yielding fodder and fodder seeds.

(Hi) Centrally Sponsored Scheme on Assistance to State for Feed and Fodder Development — The scheme has seven components with matching-funding pattern (Central: State);

(I) Strengthening of Fodder Seeds Production Farm (75:25), (2) Establishment of Fodder Bank (75:25), (3) Fodder Seed Production through registered seed growers (25:75), (4) Enrichment of straw/cellulosic waste (LOO : 00), (5) Establishment of Silviculture System (100:00), (6) Development of grassland including grass reserves (100:00) and (7) Sample Survey for area, production and requirement of fodder (100:00).

The scheme provide for strengthening feed and fodder resources and increasing nutritional value of roughages.

(c) Calorie requirement ranges from 1039 Kilo Cal. to 1236 Kilo Cal. Per kg. of 4% fat corrected milk. No assessment has been made on the calorie supplied to milch animals in dry and drought prone areas of Orissa.